“The ‘savagery’ of the Muntshi [Tiv] in olden days consisted only in their claim to be allowed to save their souls in the way they considered most suitable to themselves. They wanted to live as they liked and their live was always strenuous, passionate, free and full; an existence in which love and war, the heartiest friendships and the fiercest of feuds worked together in definite proportions”
“What an extraordinary mixture it all was. This unrestrained excitement and this industrious labour; this busy occupation, this artistry; these ancient ornaments on the neck and the headdress; this cunning craftsmanship of the smiths; this graceful flute-playing and the enchanting song of the maidens. Can these ‘savages’ really be called ‘savages’?”
Masqueraders in Wukari: The ‘Aku-ma’ crocodile mask and his wife

Further variations of male and female ‘Aku-ma’ masks

An ‘Aku-ma’ buffalo mask

The ‘Achama’ mask with its guide in Wukari

Masqueraders in Wukari: ‘Aku-onu’ and ‘Aku-uowa’, a male and a female ancestor mask and ‘Adachan’, the messenger of the king
A ‘Choawa’ mask dancer among the Tiv.

“These vigorous people, with their exuberant feeling for art, their astounding power of work and uninterrupted interest in progress and their strong impulse for the extension of knowledge”
A Jukun lady from Bali engaged in spinning.

“We found women and boys busy engaged at their work on every side”
A festive night in the Tiv village of Salatu.

“Little field-drums as well as flutes and a kakatshi trumpet taken as a war trophy from the Fulbes, are brought along too”

“A huge wooden signal-drum is pushed into the middle of the square”

“More flutes join in until the whole of the vast, old, primeval forest re-echoes with the tunes and the glad shouts of the joyful excited throngs of human beings”

National Commission for Museums and Monuments and Frobenius Institute, Frankfurt/Main
Beautifully forged spearheads from Tivland.

“Speak but the word ‘Muntschi’ on the Middle Benue and the bystanders will at once assume their most serious expressions. For the Muntshis are the most feared of all the people living in these parts”
An antique bangle excavated at the site of the ancient Kororofa capital.

“Our first goal was Wukari in which the capital of the ancient kingdom of Kororofa of ancient renown is today to be seen. The realm is peopled by the so-called Yukum or Djukum. They are a nation extraordinarily like the Yorubans in dress, in legendary lore and general characteristics”
Rings carrying a little plate for snuff, popular among Tiv men.

“I had come to know and esteem them as uncommonly industrious, active human beings of ability, with strong faculties of ethical perception”